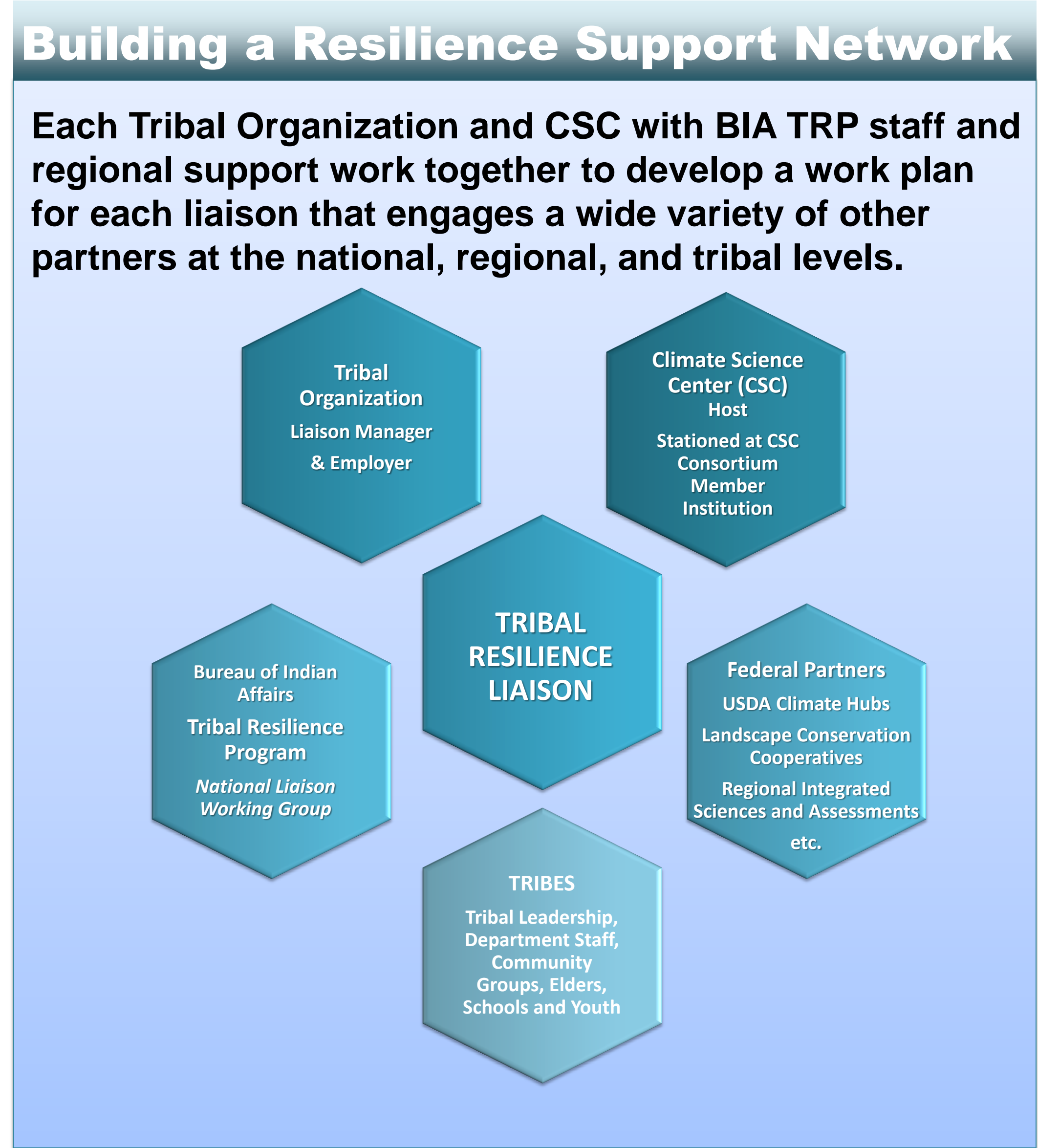


### INTRODUCTION

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and the US Geological Survey (USGS) are working together with tribal organizations to station tribal resilience liaisons across the Department of Interior (DOI) Climate Science Centers (CSCs). The liaisons will help tribal communities respond to climate change by providing:

- extension efforts to help tribes access information, data, and expertise at the CSCs, through the BIA TRP, and other agencies
- facilitate research focusing on Traditional Knowledges integration,
- and coordinate forums and information exchange.


These efforts are designed to better understand, communicate, and meet the needs of tribes through partnerships to promote more resilient tribal communities facing increasing challenges to lifeways. Below are highlights of the tribal resilience liaisons by region and information on the inter-tribal organizations that are partnering with BIA and USGS to hire and support the liaisons, while enhancing inter-tribal capacity to lead in each of the CSC Regions (see map).



### Alaska Liaison

The Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association (APIA) <http://www.apiai.org> hired Malinda Chase to serve as the Tribal Resilience Liaison at the Alaska Climate Center consortium University of Alaska - Anchorage. Malinda is an enrolled tribal member of Anvik, a Deg Hit'an Athabascan village, located in Alaska's interior region, at the confluence of the Yukon and Anvik Rivers. Malinda holds a bachelor's degree in American Studies from Wellesley College and a master's degree in Cross-Cultural Studies from the UA-Fairbanks. Her experience is in community planning, non-profit management, Native language revitalization, post-secondary distance education and Alaska Native education. More recently, Malinda's focus is on tribal resilience education that aims to engage the AK Native community in her work with the Association of Interior Native Educators. Malinda loves cutting and preserving salmon and kayaking, especially with her daughter.



**Position Highlights**  
Provide outreach and improve the capacity of Alaskan tribes to prepare for and respond to climate impacts. Identify needed info and resources for local climate education, awareness, decision-making and planning.



### Northwest Liaison

Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI) <http://atniribes.org> hired Chas Jones as the Tribal Resilience Liaison for the Northwest Climate Science Center in Corvallis, OR. Chas is an interdisciplinary expert in the dynamic interactions between climate, water, ecology, and society. He has a Ph.D. in Hydrology from the U of Alaska, where he incorporated traditional knowledge and science to assess exposure of indigenous people to the impacts of climate change. His postdoc research at EPA assesses hydrologic vulnerability to climate across the U.S. Chas also has a M.S. in Environmental Science and Policy and a B.S. in Biology from Northern Arizona University, studying ecological impacts of dams. Chas has a record of success in writing grants and technical writing – useful skills as the NW Tribal Liaison.

**Position Highlights**  
Provide education and training to support teams of tribal leaders, climate change coordinators, planners and pgm managers to build skills, gather information, and develop local tribal plans, policies, and strategies to address climate change.




### North Central Liaison

The North Central Liaison is expected to be hired later in 2017 and stationed at the North Central Climate Science Center in Fort Collins, CO and will serve tribes and tribal climate concerns in MT, KS, WY, CO, ND, SD, and NB.

Stay tuned for updates...



**Position Highlights**  
Stay tuned!



### Midwest Liaison

The College of Menominee Nation Sustainability Development Institute (CMN SDI) - <http://sustainabledevelopmentinstitute.org> hired Sara Smith as the Tribal Resilience Liaison for the Midwestern Portion of the Northeast Climate Science Center (NE CSC). The position will be stationed at the US Forest Service's Northern Forest Research Station on the University of Minnesota campus in St. Paul, Minnesota. Sara is a direct descendant of the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin and holds a B.S. in Biology (Ecology and Conservation) and First Nation Studies from the University of Wisconsin - Green Bay and a M.S. in Ecology from the State University of New York - College of Environmental Science and Forestry. Her experience is in research and development, natural resources, ecology, Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK), and working with indigenous communities in the Midwest. Sara's interests entail forest ecology and dynamics, bridging the gap between science and indigenous knowledge, climate resilience education, and community outreach.

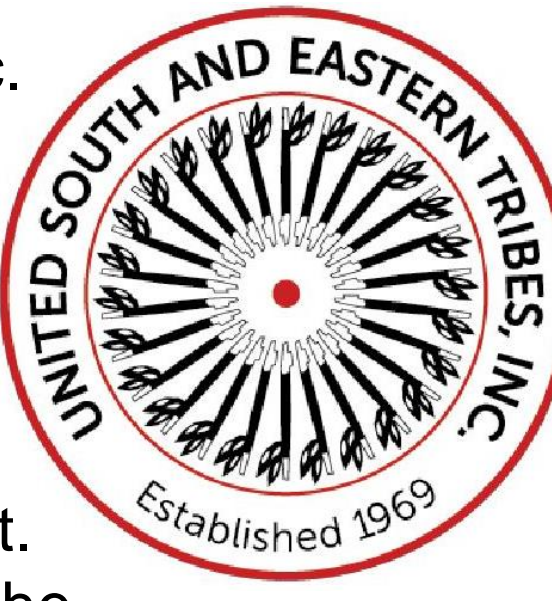
**Position Highlights**  
Serve as a direct liaison between Tribes in the Midwest and climate researchers to improve outreach, build capacity, and identify and address research gaps in climate and natural and cultural resources disciplines to guide strategic adaptive planning and implementation of tribal resiliency projects.



### Eastern Liaison

United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc. (USET) <http://www.usetinc.org> is selecting a Tribal Resilience Liaison from a short list of screened candidates to be based at the NE Climate Science Center at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst. The liaison will serve most Tribes in the NE and SE CSCs and the BIA Eastern Region. USET's Office of Environmental and Resource Management works to address environmental concerns including climate change, community ecosystems, traditional practices, clean and safe drinking water, and public safety. USET also serves on the LCC Council.

**Position Highlights**  
Serve as a technical expert on climate change issues, resource vulnerability, and climate adaptation actions to Tribal nations in the USET region, and more broadly in the combined region comprising the Department of Interior's Northeast Climate Science Center and Southeast Climate Science Center (NE CSC and SE CSC).



### Southwest Liaison

The American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC) <http://www.aihec.org> hired Holly Barton as the Tribal Resilience Liaison to work with tribes on adaptation efforts within the Southwest Climate Science Center service area (AZ, CA, NV, UT). She is Ma'ii deeshgiizhini (Coyote Pass People clan), born for Tabaaaha (Water's Edge clan). Her maternal grandfather is Tachii'nii (Red Running into the Water clan) and her paternal grandfather is Todich'i'nii (Bitter Water Clan). She is a member of the Navajo Nation from Dilkon, Arizona. Prior to this position, she was the Ecologist for the Tohono O'odham Nation and currently serves on the Dilkon Community Land Use Planning Committee. Holly has a Bachelor of Science in Sustainability from Arizona State University and will be pursuing a Masters in Environmental Planning & GeoDesign at the University of Arizona - Tucson.

**Position Highlights**  
Foster awareness within Tribal communities of climate threats and response options. Facilitate and assist with climate change response planning and research development with CSCs that incorporates Traditional Ecological Knowledge. Provide resources and support to Tribes and groups engaged in climate monitoring, studies, and adaptation activities. Coordinate national working group of AIHEC / TCU and SW CSC partners.



### South Central Liaison

April Taylor is a Sustainability Scientist with the Chickasaw Nation office at the South Central Climate Science Center (SC-CSC) in Norman, OK. April holds a BS in Marine Science from Texas A&M University and a Masters in Earth and Environmental Resource Management from the University of South Carolina. As a Chickasaw citizen with a family tradition of raising Native American grafted pecan trees, she is inspired by helping Tribes manage and plan for the many environmental impacts of climate variability and change and other resilience issues.

**Position Highlights**  
Facilitates relationships between the 68 tribes and climate scientists in OK, NM, TX, and LA. Work with Tribal education programs to develop opportunities for tribal students in STEM fields. Communicates with tribal organizations: Oklahoma Tribal Conservation Advisory Council (OTCAC), Tribal Environmental Coalition of Oklahoma (TECO), Inter-Tribal Environmental Council (ITEC), American Indian Alaskan Native Climate Change Working Group (AIANCCWG), and Five Civilized Tribes - Inter Tribal Council - Environmental Protection Committee, among many others.

